Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 09318 061208Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 /022 W ------066001 061214Z /13

P 061035Z DEC 77 FM AMEMBASSY LISBON TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3995

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USINFO FOR IOP/M USIA FOR IEU STATE FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO, U.S., NATO SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. NATO AND PORTUGAL: SUPLEMENT OF WEEKLY PRO-PSD NEWSPAPER "EXPRESSO" DEC. 3 PUBLISHED TWO-PAGE ANALYSIS TITLED "WHAT DOES NATO WANT OF PORTUGAL? WHAT DOES PORTUGAL WANT FROM NATO: RPOFESSIONALIZE THE ARMED FORCES TO DE-POLITICIZE." GIST OF ARTICLE GIVEN IN FOLLOWING EXCERPT: "WHAT DOES NATO WANT OF PORTUGAL? APPARENTLY TO REINFORCE THE PORTUGUESE PRESENCE IN THE ALLIANCE AND RETURN TO THE MILITARY ITS PROFESSIONAL ROLE, REMOVING IT FROM POLITICS AND THUS CONTRIBUTING TOWARD STABILIZING THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND THE SUPREMACY OF CIVILIAN POWER (ALL OF THIS, OF COURSE, WITHIN THE STRATEGY OF THE SOUTHERN FLANK AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE AZORES). WHAT DOES PORTUGAL WANT FROM NATO? APPARENTLY, TO FIND FOR ITS ARMED FORCES. AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE ARMY, A PURELY MILITARY FUNCTION AND TO OBTAIN THE MATERIEL AND TECHNOLOGICAL HELP WHICH WOULD PERMIT GIVING IT A ROLE WHICH SATISFIES THE MEN WHO ARE ON UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTIVE DUTY (ALL OF THIS, OF COURSE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES IN APRIL 25, THE LATER INTERVENTION OF THE ARMED FORCES, THE CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND THE POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SITUATION). WHY THE SOVIET 'NERVOUSNESS' ABOUT THIS? ('EXPRESSO' HAD CITED STATEMENTS IN PRAVDA AND RED STAR CRITICIZING PORTUGUESE NATO ROLE.) PERHAPS FOR THE SOVIET

UNION, THE FACT THAT PORTUGAL IS ASSUMING NATO RESPONSIBILITIES IS MUCH CLEARER AND MORE DIRECT THAN WHAT HAPPENED UNTIL RECENTLY WHEN EVERYTHING WAS SIMPLY STATEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS....."

CONCLUSION OF ARTICLE WAS: "THE SUBJECT OF NATO, WHICH WAS VERY MUCH IN VOGUE UNTIL ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF AGO, NOW TO THE CONTRARY HAS FALLEN INTO DISUSE EVEN AMONG THE SMALLER, FEISTIER FAR-LEFT GROUPS. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE SUBJECT COULD NOT RETURN TO THE FOREFRONT QUICKLY, BUT IF THAT HAPPENED, THE FUNDAMENTAL REASONS WOULD BE IN INTERNAL POLITICS RATHER THAN IN THE LINKS WHICH MEANWHILE HAVE BEEN CREATED AND CONSOLIDATED WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION."

2. CARTER LETTER TO EANES: PRESS GAVE CONSIDERABLE
PLAY TO RECENT LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO
PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT. HEALINES EMPHASIZED U.S. PRESIDENT'S
PHRASE, "STRONG SUPPORT TO THE PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY."

3. U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD: COMMUNIST "O DIARIO" DEC. 3 PUBLISHED A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT ON U.S. MINORITIES, WHICH SOUGHT TO SHOW THAT THE UNITED STATES SYSTEMATICALLY VIOLATES THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF BLACKS, INDIANS AND OTHER MINOR GROUPS. THE LEAD OF AN EDITORIAL SAID, "PRESENTING ITSELF TO THE WORLD OVER AS 'A CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS', THE U.S. UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENT PRESIDES OVER THE DESTINY OF A COUNTRY WHERE DISCRIMINATION ... HAS BECOME AN INSTITUTION." THE EIGHT-PAGE SUPPLEMENT INCLUDED ARTICLES ON THE CHICANOS, PUERTO RICO'S CULTURE, THE AMERICAN MOVEMENT OF INDIANS, ALLEGED POLITICAL PRISONERS WITH QUOTES FROM SYLVIA BJORNSON AND THE 'NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST AND POLITICAL REPRESSION', AND A SIMMON JAMES BY-LINER FROM NEW YORK ON "CULTURAL SEGREGATION."

4. CIA: "O DIARIO" DEC. 5 CARRIED ARTICLE DETAILING
MATERIAL ALLEGEDLY OBTAINED FROM DECLASSIFIED MAY 22, 1964,
CIA SPECIAL REPORT ON "PORTUGUESE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND ITS
POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS" APPARENTLY OBTAINED THROUGH LBJ
LIBRARY. HEADLINE WAS "SECRET DOCUMENT ABOUT PORTUGAL
REVEALS CIA'S LOE FOR FASCISM."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 06-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason:

Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LISBON09318
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770452-0088 Format: TEL

From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771289/aaaacxii.tel Line Count: 110 Litigation Code IDs:

Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 392e790b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 346391 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MEDIA REACTION TAGS: SOPN, PO, US, NATO

To: USIA Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/392e790b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009